

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

- Sub B1* →
1. (Currently amended) A method for identifying the location of medical facilities along a travel route, the method comprising:
    - (a) mapping a travel route;
    - (b) ~~providing~~ comparing the travel route with a database of medical facilities, wherein the database includes the name and location of each medical facility maintained therein;
    - (c) identifying one or more medical facilities along the travel route based on the comparison; and
    - (d) preparing an output of the identified medical facilities along the travel route, the output including a name and address of each of the identified medical facilities.
  2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the travel route is a flight plan.
  3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more medical facilities comprises hospitals and ambulance services.
  4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more medical facilities is a plurality of medical facilities.
  5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the plurality of medical facilities comprises one or more hospitals and one or more ambulance services.
  6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the travel route is mapped by a software program.
  7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the travel route is mapped manually.
  8. (Cancelled).
  9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the output is a written report.
  10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the output is a computer readable file.
  11. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of loading the computer readable file into the on-board computer of an aircraft.
  12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the output further includes a quality rating for at least one of the one or more medical facilities.
  13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the quality rating obtained for each medical facility is based in part upon a telephonic interview with one or more
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personnel of each medical facility to determine each facility's ability to handle one or more types of medical emergencies.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the database is maintained within an electronic storage device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the output further includes a suitable stopping point along a travel route.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the suitable stopping point is an airport.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 that further comprised the step of selecting from the one or more identified medical facilities a suitable medical facility.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the database further includes, for at least one of the medical facilities in the database, information selected from the group consisting of: (a) languages spoken, (b) proximity to suitable stopping points, (c) one or more medical specialties offered, (d) a quality rating for at least one of the medical specialties offered, and (e) payment methods accepted.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the output further includes, for at least one of the medical facilities in the database, information from the group consisting of: (a) languages spoken, (b) proximity to suitable stopping points, (c) one or more medical specialties offered, (d) a quality rating for at least one of the medical specialties offered, and (e) payment methods accepted.

20. (Currently amended) A method for identifying a medical facility to a person in a vehicle moving along a travel route, the method comprising:

(a) providing a database of medical facilities, the database including a name and location for each of the medical facilities;

(b) establishing a non-verbal communications link between the vehicle and the database;

(c) identifying the location of the person;

(d) identifying, based partly on the location of the person and the database of medical facilities, a medical facility; and

(e) communicating the name and location of the identified medical facility to the person via the non-verbal communications link.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~21~~ 20 wherein the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of an automobile, a plane, a boat, and a train.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the database of medical facilities includes a phone number for at least some of the medical facilities.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the person identifies his/her position by inputting it using a keyboard.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the person identifies his/her position by inputting it using a keypad of a wireless electronic device.

26. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the database of medical facilities includes a quality rating for one or more of the medical facilities.

27. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the database of medical facilities includes the types of medical emergencies at least one of the medical facilities is equipped to handle.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the phone number for the identified medical facility is communicated to the ~~traveler~~ person.

29. (Original) A method of identifying medical facilities along a travel route, the method comprising:

(a) comparing the travel route to a database containing medical facility information; and

(b) identifying at least one medical facility on or near the travel route based on the comparison.

30. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~28~~ 29 further comprising the step of calculating the travel route.

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~29~~ 30 wherein the travel route is calculated using software.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29 that further includes the step of identifying a suitable stopping point along the travel route.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein the travel route is a flight plan.

34. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein the travel route is a flight plan and the method further includes the step of identifying one or more suitable stopping points, wherein each of the suitable stopping points is an airport.

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32 wherein the medical facility is determined by one or more of the factors selected from the group consisting of: (a) ~~distance of the medical facility from potential suitable stopping points, (b)~~ type of medical services provided by the medical facility, ~~(c)~~ (b) hours of operation of the medical facility, ~~(d)~~ (c) available emergency equipment at the medical facility, ~~(e)~~ (d) payment options available at the medical facility, and ~~(f)~~ (e) cleanliness of the medical facility.

36. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of displaying the travel route and identified medical facilities on at least one of an electronic screen and a printed document.

37. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of displaying the identified medical facilities on at least one of an electronic screen and a printed document.

38. (Original) The method according to claim 29 further comprising the step of downloading and storing information pertaining to identified medical facilities.

39. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 34 38 wherein the downloaded and stored information includes at least one of the following: (a) types of medical services available at each identified medical facility; (b) ~~the location of each identified medical facility;~~ (c) the hours of operation for each identified medical facility; ~~(d)~~ (c) contact information for each identified medical facility; and ~~(e)~~ (d) languages spoken at each identified medical facility.

40. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29 wherein the steps of ~~determining,~~ comparing and identifying are performed by a processing device reading machine-readable code.

41. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 29 30 wherein the steps of comparing, ~~and identifying and calculating~~ are performed by a processing device reading machine-readable code.

42. (Original) The method according to claim 38 wherein the downloaded and stored information includes a rating of one or more of the identified medical facilities.

43. (Original) The method according to claim 42 wherein the rating is based on at least one of the following: (a) an overall quality of the medical facility, and (b) a medical specialty available at the medical facility.

44. (Currently amended) A system for determining medical facilities along a travel route of an aircraft, the system comprising:

(a) an input device for providing aircraft location information;

(b) a memory storing a database containing information relating to a plurality of medical facilities;

(c) a processor operative to compare the aircraft location information with the database containing information relating to a plurality of medical facilities and identify at least one medical facility along the travel route of the aircraft based on the comparison ~~provided location information and information contained within the database;~~ and

(d) a display operative to show the identified at least one medical facility along the travel route of the aircraft.

45. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 44 wherein the provided location information comprises a starting point and a destination point and wherein the memory also stores navigational information for calculating a the travel route based on the location information.

46. (Original) The system according to claim 44 wherein the input device comprises a global positioning system (GPS) receiver.

47. (Original) The system according to claim 44 wherein the display comprises one of an LCD, LED and CRT display.

48. (Original) The system according to claim 44 wherein the display comprises a printing device.

49. (Original) The system according to claim 44 wherein the input device comprises means for a user to input information relative to determining the at least one medical facility along the travel route.

50. (Currently amended) A method of locating a medical facility for ~~a vehicle~~ an aircraft in transit, the method comprising:

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canceled

(a) determining a current location of ~~the vehicle~~ the aircraft in transit;

(b) comparing the current location of the ~~vehicle~~ aircraft in transit with locations of medical facilities stored in a database;

(c) identifying at least one medical facility and a corresponding location which is near the current location of the ~~vehicle~~ aircraft based on the comparison; and

(d) displaying the corresponding location of at least one medical facility to a user in the aircraft.

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51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising the step of selecting, by a the user, a medical facility from the displayed at least one medical facility.

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~50~~ 52 further comprising providing navigational instructions for the user to fly the aircraft ~~vehicle~~ in transit to ~~reach~~ the selected medical facility.

54. (Currently amended) The method of claim 50 wherein before ~~determining~~ identifying the at least one medical facility, the method further comprises the step of inputting information relative to ~~the~~ a medical emergency in order to assist in identifying the at least one medical facility.

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55. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~50~~ 54 wherein the inputted information includes for comparing with the database at least one of: a type of medical emergency, a language preference, a type of insurance coverage, and a maximum distance from the current location to a medical facility.

56. (Original) A method of identifying medical facilities along a flight route, the method comprising:

(a) inputting navigational information pertaining to the flight route; and

(b) combining the navigational information with medical facility information stored in a database, the medical facility information including location and contact information of a plurality of medical facilities.

57. (Original) The method of claim 56 wherein each medical facility is a predetermined distance from airports along the flight route.

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58. (Original) A database containing information related to medical facilities, the database configured to be accessed by a processor processing flight plan software to produce at least one potential emergency diversion site along a flight path.

59. (Currently amended) A computer program having machine readable code stored on a tangible medium comprising:

- (a) code for obtaining ~~travel location information~~ a travel route;
- (b) code for ~~accessing information~~ comparing the travel route with information in a medical facility database;
- (c) code for identifying at least one medical facility based on the comparison ~~obtained travel location information and accessed information from the medical facility database~~; and
- (d) code for generating a display of the at least one identified medical facility.

60. (Currently amended) A system for identifying medical facilities along a travel route, the ~~method~~ system comprising:

- (a) input means for ~~providing~~ inputting travel location information;
- (b) storage means for storing a database containing information relating to a plurality of medical facilities;
- (c) processing means for comparing inputted travel location information with the information relating to the plurality of medical facilities stored in said database and for identifying at least one medical facility based on the comparison ~~the provided travel location information and information contained within the database~~; and
- (d) display means for displaying the information related to the identified at least one medical facility.

61. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 60 wherein ~~the steps of comparing and identifying are performed on~~ said processing means comprises a website server.

62. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 60 wherein the information related to the identified at least one medical facility includes directions to the at least one medical facility ~~are also communicated via the communications link~~.